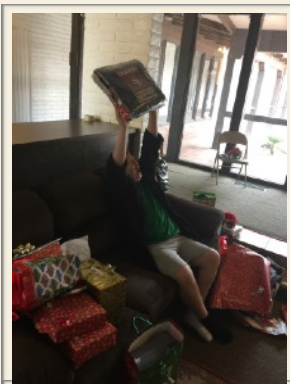


The Magic of Christmas



What a wonderful holiday season it was for the KBYH group home children. The kindness and generosity showed to our children during this Christmas is much appreciated. All those who helped with our Christmas Tree Donations, gift collections, and those who volunteered their time with wrapping, really made this Christmas memorable, sensational and one-of-a kind. A famous peace activist once said, "Wisdom is knowing what to do next; virtue is doing it." You are obviously both wise and virtuous. Likewise, we would like to thank all of our Childcare Workers for cooking such a wonderful Christmas Day lunch and dinner. Also, we would like to thank those workers who helped with decorating the group homes and for setting the Christmas spirit; the ambiance at both homes was astounding. Please accept our sincere thanks for volunteering your time and efforts this Christmas. Your support won't be forgotten.

Congrats

Frazier's Finest: Fayth T

All A's: Nathaniel D.

Improvement at School: Audrey C

Honor Roll:

David O.

William O.

Cristian R.



Upcoming Trainings

(please RSVP)

February 11, 9-11AM: "Administration of Psychotropic Medications; Emancipation and Independent Living" with Joe Ortega

March 6, 6:00-8:00PM: "Managing Aggressive Behavior" with Mark Dominguez

Ongoing Trainings

Mark Dominguez will be offering the following trainings on an ongoing basis 6-8PM: "(participants must RSVP by the Monday of the week of training):

CPR/1st Aid Recertification (*for anyone who has previously had CPR/1st Aid training*): First Thursday of every month from 10:00am-Noon and from 6:00-8:00pm.

CPR/1st Aid-Initial Course (*for those who have never had the training before*): First Saturday of February, May, August, and November, 10:00am-3:00pm.

A big THANK YOU to the Bridge Church youth group who came on 12/21 to help wrap presents for our group home foster youth.



Thank you to the folks at AC Electric for coming to help wrap presents on 12/21.



We had the opportunity to go to Las Vegas for the new year. We left early Friday morning and stopped in Calico Ghost Town on the way. In Calico we explored all the old buildings and climbed the mountain to get the view of the whole town. It was exciting as none of us had ever been there before and there is a lot of cool history there. We grabbed a bite to eat on the way out of Calico and made our way to Vegas. We got to our hotel and were excited to see that we were on the 27th floor. We had an amazing view of the Vegas strip. We wasted no time and went to a large Vegas buffet where we enjoyed all kinds of sea food and anything else you could think of. Later that night we went and explored Fremont Street and enjoyed all the live music and various vendors. The next day they shut down the whole strip for New Years and we were able to walk anywhere we wanted without traffic. We walked all the way down the strip and hit the various attractions. We rode the gondolas, watched the water show at the Billagio, and spent a ton of time at the Adventure Dome in Circus Circus. After a long day on the strip we went up to the hotel and watched the fireworks at midnight from our room. We had a great time and believe we made some great family memories.

-Daren and Jen, KBYH foster parents



Child Birthdays

- February 10: Waylon T.
- February 14: Jason M.
- February 22: Raidene E
- February 23: Rhiannon W.
- February 28: William O.



Foster Parent Birthdays

- February 8: John Gonzalez
- February 9: Petrina Williams
- February 14: Jose Alfaro
- February 24: Mario Caudillo

KBYH Staff Birthdays

- February 6: Judy Pilchard
- February 19: Karina Garcia

KBYH Staff Anniversaries

- Anton Freeman: 1 Year
- Shawn Wilcox: 2 Years
- John Bacon: 17 Years

Foster Child of the Month: Emmett P.

We take great pleasure presenting Emmett P. as Child of the Month for January. Emmett is a handsome, well-mannered, polite and cheerful little boy. He enjoys playing inside and outside the home. He is very friendly and as such has no difficulty engaging with others to join him in activities. His other favorite like is candy! Emmett attends Head Start. He has enjoyed preschool and has always received laudatory reports from the school. He has made many friends at preschool. Emmett is a likable little boy who interacts well with those who visit him and the family. We wish Emmett the very best the future has to offer him. Congratulations Emmett on your selection as

Foster Family Spotlight:

KBYH welcomes three new families to the Kern Bridges team. Linden and Indra Goodwin live in NW Bakersfield and have already accepted a sibling set into their home. Breanna Wood and Donald Beavers live in Oildale and have already taken placement of a little girl. And Eric and Kathleen Viramontes live in Delano and are currently hoping for placement of 8 year old twins. Thank you to these families for taking the steps necessary to become certified and for being willing to open your homes and hearts. Welcome to the team!

Confidentiality

Just a quick reminder to our families to be sure to use wise discretion when it comes to the confidential nature of foster children's information. It is always best to use the "need to know" standard when deciding what to share regarding the children in your care. Additionally, discretion should be used when using photographs of the children. Unless an exception has been made, foster children pictures should not be used on social media or otherwise posted in places that would compromise their confidentiality.



Thank you to the following businesses who participated in our Wishmas Tree toy drive. As always, the response was incredible and as a result, all of the children received everything they had on their wish list. KBYH would also like to thank the Kern County Christmas Cottage for all the wonderful gifts they collected on behalf of foster youth throughout the county, Dan Marble, KBYH Founder, who continues to faithfully support KBYH, and AG Wise for putting together stockings for each of our group home boys.

Beautologie	Borton & Petrini	Village Grill
Chevron Valley Credit Union	First Solutions	Kwik Signs
Golden Valley High School	Lorene's Coffee Shop	Mauricio's
Pappy's Coffee Shop	TooFat Sandwiches	Walter Mortensen Ins.
Young Wooldridge	Premier Equipment	Pros. Inc.
J&M's Café	County Council	Wasco Church of God
Daniells Phillip Vaughan & Bock	Stinsons	Halliburton
Premier Medical Associates	Wilson Paves & Associates	PG&E
Bakersfield Signs	The Bridge Church	AG Wise
Prime Cut	Tina Maestas	Penche Dance Academy
JD Food Supply	Komin Medical Group	

SAFETY

A couple of weeks ago, one of our Resource Families reported that their vehicle was stolen at Valley Plaza. The family had finished with their clothing shopping for their children. They left the clothing in the vehicle while they went to eat at one of the establishments. They decided to go to the movies afterwards. Upon their return from the movies they discovered that the vehicle was gone. Their efforts to find the vehicle proved fruitless.

Last November, a family's vehicle had the rear window broken and purse with credit cards and driver's license taken. A car nearby was also vandalized. These occurred in the exclusive housing area near Lake Ming. A car was broken into about a week later at Costco's on Panama Lane in the parking lot and in daylight. A baby diaper bag was taken. In December an automobile was stolen and wrecked. Vehicle was totaled.

It seems as though vehicle thefts and vandalism are on the rise. Please take extra precautions to provide security to your vehicles. Do not rely solely on the alarms installed on the vehicles and don't leave items in the car whenever possible (and if you do, do not leave them visible). Also, we recommend that credit cards usually carried are identified and phone numbers to report stolen credit cards are readily available to report stolen cards. Avoid carrying any non-replaceable documents or cards if at all possible.

Congrats to all the 2016 KBYH adoptee's, who found their forever homes

Andrey Maestas
Cloe Suorsa
Wyatt Ayala
Charisma Schmidt
Bryson Schmidt
Lillianna Thompson
Nathaniel Thompson
Angelo Warren
Soleil Warren
Jayleen Salas
Anthony Salas

